

November Edition

Nov 5th, 2021
Volume 3, Issue 3

COVID-19

[HUB AT HOPKINS](#)
[JHU COVID RESOURCE CENTER](#)
[JHM COVID-19 INTERNAL RESOURCE PANEL](#)
[MARYLAND DEPT OF HEALTH](#)
[CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL](#)

Johns Hopkins has moved to Phase 3 of reopening efforts, resuming medium-risk activities but still relying on distancing and mask-wearing in addition to providing online alternatives to in-person activities.

Universal masking was reinstated July 30 due to a rise in cases associated with the delta variant; all personnel must wear masks in JHM facilities and outdoors when within six feet of others, regardless of vaccination status, unless alone in an office with the door closed.

Meetings and gatherings should be virtual whenever possible. Indoor events were revised in August to not exceed 25 people and outdoor events should not exceed 50 people. Food and drink should be individually wrapped in a “grab-and-go” fashion.

Depending on the state of COVID-19 cases in Maryland, Hopkins may review these guidelines later in the fall semester or in the spring, which will allow our planners to revisit scheduling the Physiology retreat!

If you experience COVID-19 symptoms, call the Johns Hopkins COVID-19 Call Center at **443-287-8500** for evaluation and guidance.

Booster Shots: Currently Hopkins is offering 3rd doses of COVID vaccines through MyChart to those 65 or older, with an underlying medical condition, or essential workers. Click the link above for more details.

Flu shots will be required by everyone by November 19.

Opportunities

Scholarship for women PhD students
The Philanthropic Educational Organization is a non-profit distributing scholarships of \$20,000 to women who put forth exemplary efforts in their academic endeavors and become role models for women who follow. Find more info [here](#)

Calendar

- November is:
- American Diabetes Month
 - Lung Cancer Awareness Month
 - National Alzheimer’s Disease Awareness Month
 - National Epilepsy Awareness Month
 - National Native American Heritage Month

Department Events

Nov 10: Guest Speaker Physiology Seminar at Noon
Speaker: Alessio Accardi, PhD
Associate Professor of Physiology and Biophysics in Anesthesiology
Associate Professor of Biochemistry
Weill Cornell Medicine
“What is the role of calcium in polycystic kidney disease?”
Host: Dr. Qiu
LOCATION: WEST LECTURE HALL, GROUND FLOOR PCTB

Physiology Newsletter

The Annual Physiology Retreat– after being cancelled in 2020 and rescheduled in 2021– was a success!

Almost everyone was able to make it out to our first departmental gathering since 2019! Professor of Medicine and Director of Pulmonary Critical Care Medicine Bench Research, Dr. Larissa Shimoda, gave the faculty talk on her research on ion channels and transporters that mediate the pathogenesis of pulmonary hypertension. If you want to read more about Dr. Shimoda’s work, you can check out her recent review, [Cellular Pathways Promoting Pulmonary Vascular Remodeling by Hypoxia](#), published in *Physiology*. We heard fantastic talks from graduate students, Aanishaa Jhaldiyal, Jiachen Chu, and Dylan Sarver, as well as a great talk from post-doctoral fellow, Yu Wang.

Dr. William (Bill) Pavan, Department of Physiology alumni returned to give a talk on his research and reflecting on his career

Bill was Roger Reeves’ first graduate student and is notable as the only member of the BCMB program to do bench work with a baby in a carrier on his back. Dr. Pavan now serves as the [Director of the NHGRI](#) (National Human Genome Research Institute) Intramural Training Office, where he oversees the career development of post-doctoral fellows, graduate students, and pre-doctoral fellows as well as summer students. His eight publications from his time in Roger Reeves’ lab, combined with consistent and notable success throughout his career, provides proof for generations of potential students that there is a possibility of a successful career after the Reeves lab!



Dylan Sarver wins the Maria del Carmen Vitery Graduate Student Award

This award was established in honor of a previous graduate student in the department, Maria del Carmen Vitery, who tragically passed away in 2019. Maria is remembered for her exemplary services and contribution to the university and broader community. Each year this award honors a current student who, like Maria, excels in their research and has demonstrated commitment to service and outreach. This year, Dylan Sarver was awarded this honor for his excellence in research – he currently has ~20 publications related to his graduate work – and for his commitment to the community. Dylan initiated the first ever departmental retreat in 2019!

Thank you to all the faculty and trainees who worked hard to make sure this retreat could happen and put together everything! We appreciate you!

Photos courtesy of Manuella Ribas Andrade and Mackenzie Kui



Nov 12: Journal Club at Noon
IN-PERSON IN THE PHYSIOLOGY LIBRARY
Dylan Sarver and Hayden Hyatt

**Nov 19: Department Diversity, Equity,
and Inclusion Journal Club**

Nov 25: Thanksgiving Holiday

**Dec. 1: Peter Maloney Memorial
Lecture, Noon**
Speaker: Jue Chen, PhD
William E. Ford Professor of Biochemistry
Howard Hughes Medical
Institute Investigator
Rockefeller University

**Dec 3: Department Research
Seminar at Noon (Lutsenko Lab theme)**
Ekaterina Kabin
Yu Wang, PhD

Other Events

Nov. 11: Veteran’s Day
Nov. 12: State of Johns Hopkins Medicine
Address by Dean Rothman, [noon](#)
**Nov. 20: Transgender Day
of Remembrance**

[PDCO Calendar](#)

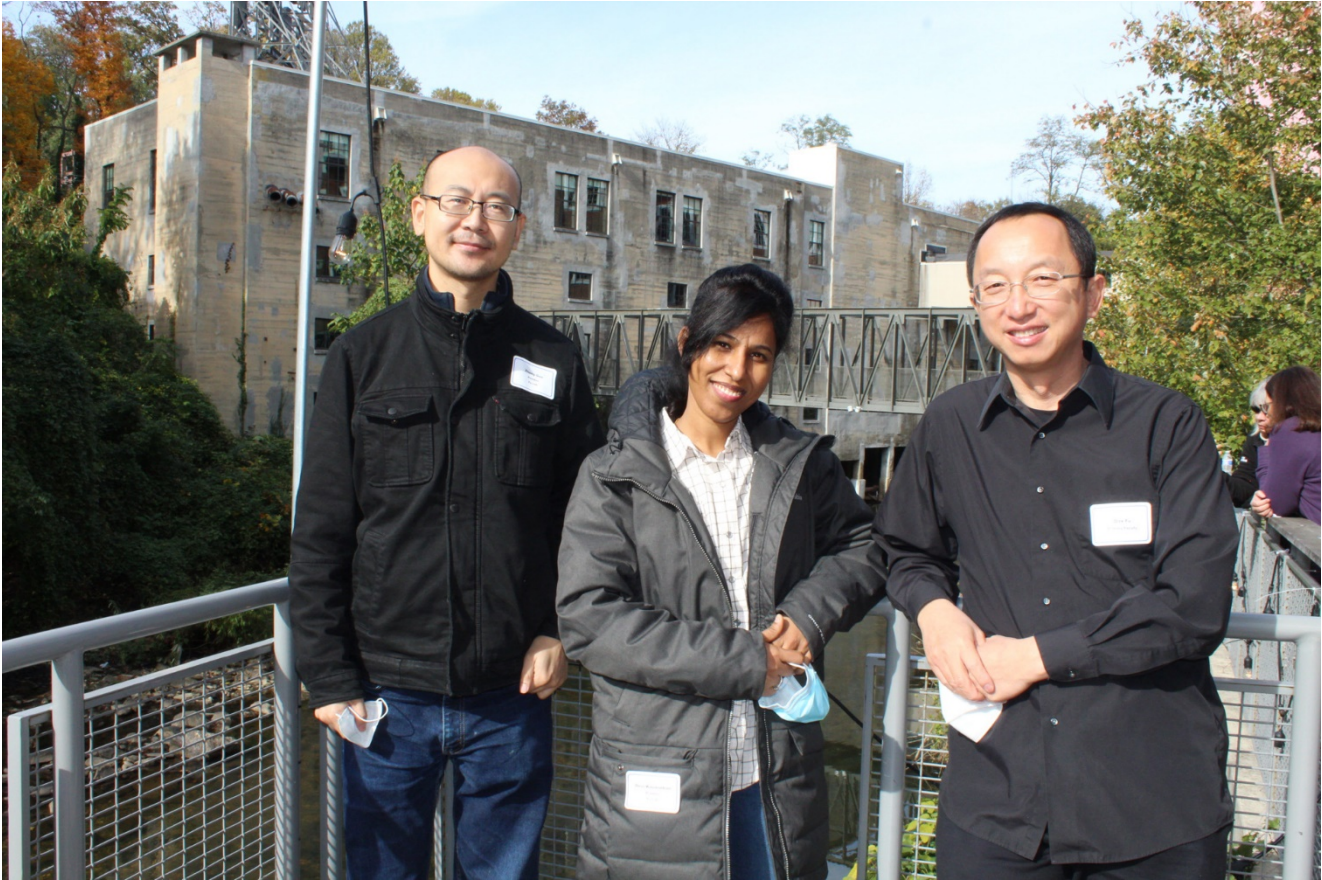
Welcome!

One more new Physiology baby!
Congratulations to Nathan Zaidman,
postdoc in the Pluznick Lab, and his
wife on the birth of their baby girl on
October 13!

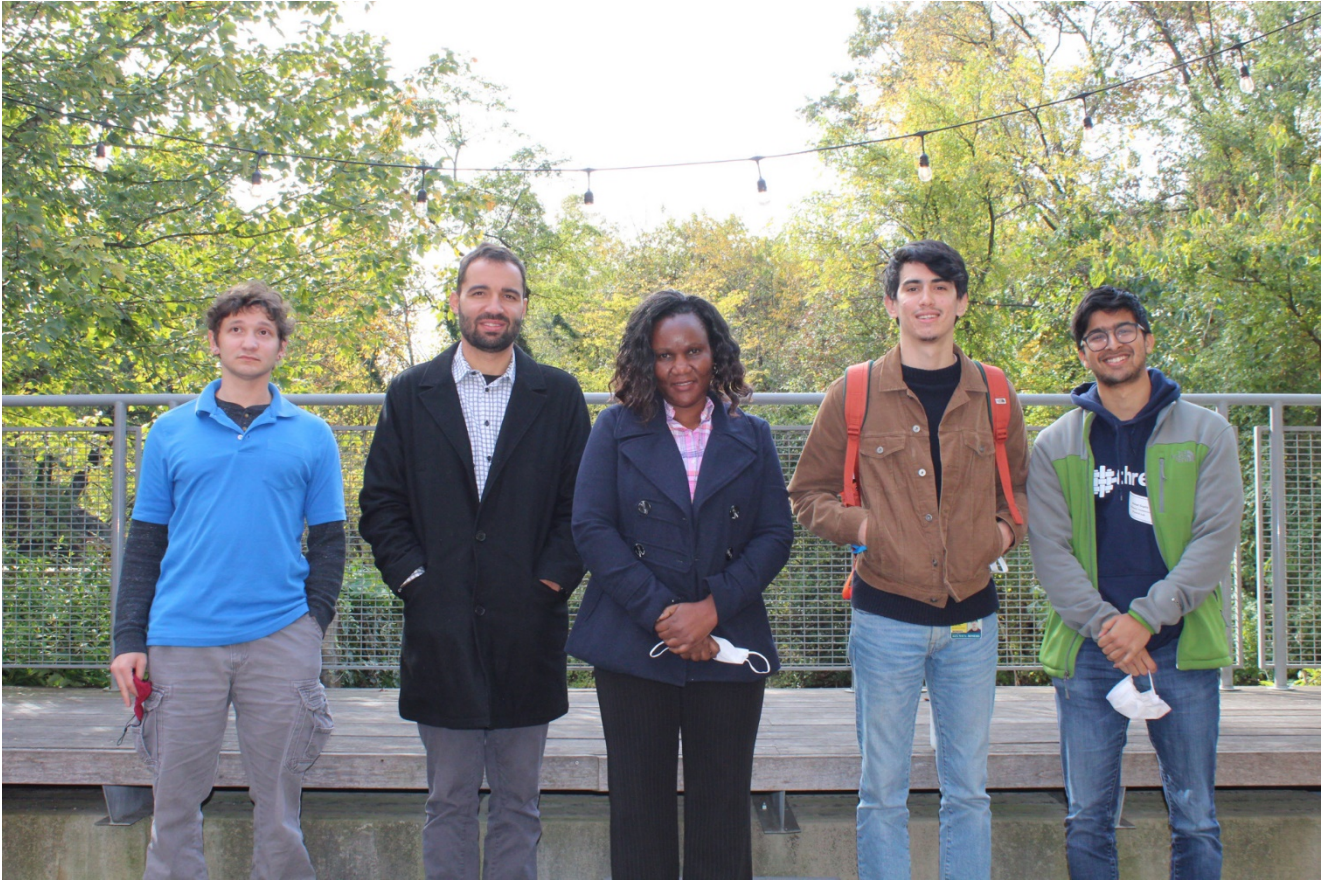
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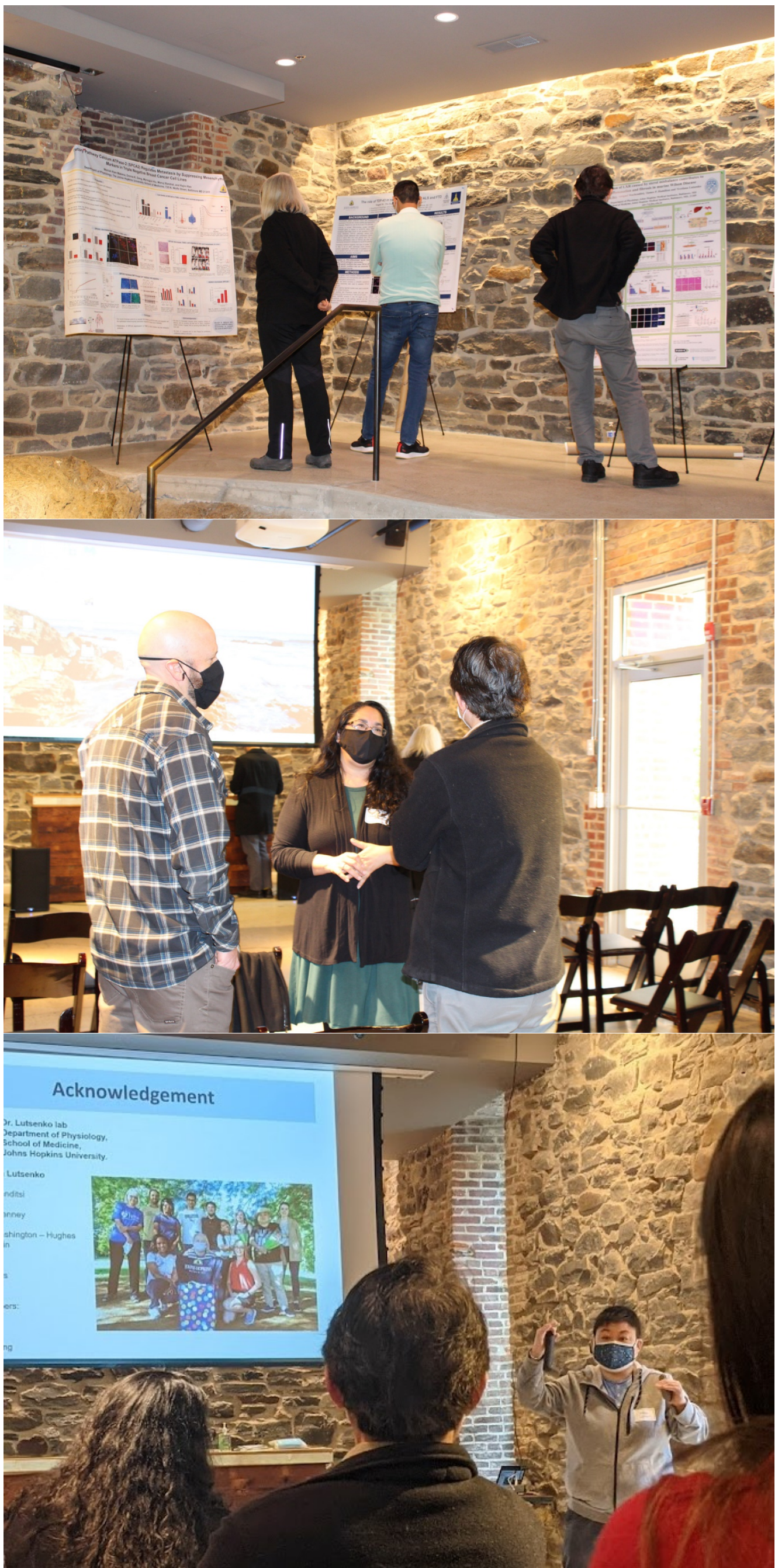
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Awards and Accomplishments: A Year of Awards in Review

Qui Lab:

James Osei-Owusu: The Martin and Carol Macht Research Award, JHMI Young Investigators Award Program
Ljubica Mihaljevic: Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds (BIF) PhD fellowship
Junhua Yang: Career Development Award from the American Heart Association (AHA)

Pluznick Lab:

Nathan Zaidman: K99/R00 Pathways to Independence Award; JHU Postdoctoral Research Accelerator Award; The Alfred Blalock Research Award, JHMI Young Investigators Award Program; American Journal of Physiology (AJP) Renal Early Career Editorial Fellowship Program
Jiaojiao Xu: Selected to give an oral presentation at the Mid-Atlantic Nephrology Young Investigators Research Forum and won third place in the basic science category. She was then invited to give an oral presentation at the National Nephrology Young Investigators Research Forum and won third place in the basic science category.
Brittini Moore: Selected as a 2021 SMDP Biotech Scholar
Jen Pluznick: Graduate Studies Alumni Council’s 2021 Early Career Achievement Award; Nebraska Medical Center AHA Council on Hypertension Mid-Career Award for Research Excellence

Claypool Lab:

Nanami Senoo: Postdoctoral fellowship Award from the American Heart Association and the Barth Syndrome Foundation; 2021 MD Stem Cell Research Fund Award (declined)
Alex Maya-Romero: Diversity Supplement to support his training
Juliana Marquez: Awarded an Administrative Supplement to Support Undergraduate Summer Research Experiences award
Erica Avery: Awarded a “JH Needs U COVID Wellbeing Grant” for Spring 2021. Ran a panel session covering various topics related to living with a disability during a pandemic. Awarded the Johns Hopkins Medicine National Disability Employment Awareness Month Achiever’s Award for her disability advocacy work.

Lutsenko Lab:

Kelly Summers: The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) of Canada Post-Doctoral Fellowship
Clorissa Washington-Hughes: Selected by the organizers of the Symposium “Excellence in Diversity” to generate a video based on her research

Kralli Lab:
Alexa Wade: Awarded a pre-doctoral fellowship from the AHA

Sun Lab:
Zhe Zhang: Toffler Scholar Award for innovative thinking and research excellence
Shaopeng Wang and Yini Li: Excellence in Basic Research Award at the 2021 Pathology Young Investigators’ Day
Yingzhi Ye: Officially became a Doctoral Candidate (passed her DBO)

Dawson Lab:
Aanishaa Jhaldiyal: Best Poster Prize, The Journal of Cell Biology (JCB) and Journal of Experimental Medicine (JEM) Symposium on Neurodegeneration
Valina Dawson: Elected as a fellow of the National Academy of Inventors

Publications

Manuscripts

A new paper from the Lutsenko lab, [Hepatic steatosis in the mouse model of Wilson disease coincides with a muted inflammatory response](#), is now available online from *The American Journal of Pathology*. This paper is the work of former Lutsenko lab post-doc, Aline Gottlieb, and current post-doc, Som Dev. They found that a high fat, “Western” diet increased body fat content and induced liver steatosis in both males and females in both wild-type and Wilson disease model mice. Additionally, this high fat diet resulted in down-regulation of cholesterol biosynthesis, altered nuclear receptor signaling, and changed cytoskeletal markers. This work also provides new information on the role of copper in liver steatosis, especially in Wilson disease, and suggests that there is an overlap between the metabolic effects of copper overload and high caloric intake.